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# Cav Country



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Telling the First Team's Story

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## 'We Got Him'

### Capture of Hussein Will Not Affect 1st Cav's Mission

By Spc. Christina Rockhill  
1st Cavalry Division PAO

Even though Saddam Hussein has been captured, 1st Cavalry Division Soldiers still have their work cut out for them when they deploy after the new year.

"The capture of Saddam Hussein is a great moment in the history of Iraq," Lt. Col. Paul Fisher, public affairs officer for the 1st Cav. Div., said. "However, as significant an achievement as this is, there is



still a lot of work to do in Iraq. The 1st Cav. Div. mission has not changed. We will continue the work of our predecessors in assisting the Iraqi people in ensuring a safe and secure environment."

Fisher said the capture of Hussein is a great moment in the history of Iraq and that credit for that capture lays right in our backyard.

"We are extremely proud of our brothers and sisters in the Fourth Infantry Division and the critical role they played in the capture of Saddam Hussein," Fisher said.

Cav. Soldiers can still expect to be deployed as planned.



Military Photo

**Photo of Saddam Hussein after his capture by Soldiers from the Fourth Infantry Division on Sunday. Hussein had grown a beard and was found with \$750,000 in American currency, a pistol and two AK-47s.**

## Black Jack Brigade Bids Farewell to Fort Hood

By Spc. Bryan Kinkade  
1st Cavalry Division PAO

As the 1st Cavalry Division prepares to deploy early next year, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Black Jack, is leading the way. The 2nd BCT will deploy in January as the lead element of the division.

Though this is not Black Jack Brigade's first deployment, it is different from other deployments, because they are not taking all of their heavy armored vehicles.



COL Formica

"Like every other brigade combat team in this division, we have transformed from being an armored brigade into becoming a light cavalry," Col. Michael Formica, the 2nd BCT commander, said. "We're leaving our tanks and we're now going to man Humvees and going to conduct reconnaissance patrols and combat operations dismounted."

The brigade will deploy to Iraq for approximately one year. Their mission is to provide a safe and secure environment for the Iraqi people. The mission also contributes to the safety and security of the American people as part of the global war on terrorism.

The brigade has been extensively training its Soldiers since it received its orders for deployment, specifically on Iraqi cultural awareness.

"Because we've changed our organization, we trained all of our Soldiers to do those tasks which are common in a stability operation, specifically manning traffic control points, and executing cordons or dismounted patrols," Formica said.

Since the BCT transformed, it lost some firepower from its tanks, but individual Soldiers increased that firepower by carrying different weapons.

"We've taken a lot of peo-

ple who would carry a 9-mm pistol for self defense and assigned them a long rifle and trained them how to use it," Command Sgt. Major Neil Ciotola, the 2nd BCT command sergeant major, said. "We've increased their propensity to survive in an urban environment and tailored them to be a more viable force in an urban environment."

"We've also focused a lot on families and rear detach-



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